



**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**National Park Service**

**[NPS-WASO-NAGPRA-NPS0033673; PPWOCRADN0-PCU00RP14.R50000]**

**Notice of Intent to Repatriate Cultural Items: The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN**

**AGENCY:** National Park Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, in consultation with the appropriate Indian Tribes or Native Hawaiian organizations, has determined that the cultural items listed in this notice meet the definition of sacred objects. Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to claim these cultural items should submit a written request to The Children's Museum of Indianapolis. If no additional claimants come forward, transfer of control of the cultural items to the lineal descendants, Indian Tribes, or Native Hawaiian organizations stated in this notice may proceed.

**DATES:** Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to claim these cultural items should submit a written request with information in support of the claim to The Children's Museum of Indianapolis at the address in this notice by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**].

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**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Jennifer Noffze, The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, 3000 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208, telephone (317) 334-3722, email [jenn@childrensmuseum.org](mailto:jenn@childrensmuseum.org).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Notice is here given in accordance with the Native

American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), 25 U.S.C. 3005, of the intent to repatriate cultural items under the control of The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, IN, that meet the definition of sacred objects under 25 U.S.C. 3001.

This notice is published as part of the National Park Service's administrative responsibilities under NAGPRA, 25 U.S.C. 3003(d)(3). The determinations in this notice are the sole responsibility of the museum, institution, or Federal agency that has control of the Native American cultural items. The National Park Service is not responsible for the determinations in this notice.

### **History and description of the cultural items**

The six sacred objects are False Face masks. Three of the False Face masks were acquired from the Museum of the American Indian in New York in 1967 and are attributed to the Iroquois from the Onondaga reservation. Two masks were purchased in 1976 and are attributed to the Iroquois. One mask was donated in 1985 and was attributed by the donor to the Iroquois. During consultation with The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, the Onondaga Nation confirmed the cultural affiliation of these masks and their identity as sacred objects.

### **Determinations made by The Children's Museum of Indianapolis**

Officials of The Children's Museum of Indianapolis have determined that:

- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(3)(C), the six cultural items described above are specific ceremonial objects needed by traditional Native American religious leaders for the practice of traditional Native American religions by their present-day adherents.
- Pursuant to 25 U.S.C. 3001(2), there is a relationship of shared group identity that can be reasonably traced between the sacred objects and the Onondaga Nation.

### **Additional Requestors and Disposition**

Lineal descendants or representatives of any Indian Tribe or Native Hawaiian organization not identified in this notice that wish to claim these cultural items should submit a written request with information in support of the claim to Jennifer Noffze, The Children's Museum of Indianapolis, 3000 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis, IN 46208, telephone (317) 334-3722, email [jenn@childrensmuseum.org](mailto:jenn@childrensmuseum.org), by [INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF

PUBLICATION IN THE **FEDERAL REGISTER**]. After that date, if no additional claimants have come forward, transfer of control of the sacred objects to the Onondaga Nation may proceed.

The Children's Museum of Indianapolis is responsible for notifying the Onondaga Nation that this notice has been published.

Dated: March 30, 2022.

**Melanie O'Brien,**

*Manager, National NAGPRA Program.*

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